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Canada Eyes Heine's Suit Against Raus

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The Royal Canadian Mounted Police liaison officer in Washington first heard about Eerik Heine, who has been described by the Central Intelligence Agency as a Soviet agent, when he read about the case in the newspapers.

Inspector Peter Bazowski said he obviously could not reveal details of information transmitted through him between United States and Canadian agencies, but he added:

"In this case, I can say quite honestly that all I know about it is what I have read in the newspapers."

Heine, a 46-year-old resident of Rexdale, a suburb of Toronto, has said he was granted Canadian citizenship in August 1964 about three weeks after he had been questioned by RCMP officers regarding rumors circulating in the Estonian emigre community that he was a Communist and a Soviet KGB agent.

Since then, the CIA has revealed in connection with Heine's \$110,000 slander suit against Juri Raus, 39, of Hyattsville, Md., that Raus is a CIA agent and that he was instructed to warn fellow Estonians that Heine was a Soviet agent.

Disclosure of the CIA's involvement in the case has brought angry comment from the Canadian press but little reaction from the Canadian government.

In Washington, Yvon Beaulne, minister of the Embassy of Canada, indicated that the Canadian government felt that any statement on the case at this time, while it remains a private law suit between one individual and another, would only further complicate an already complicated situation.

If Heine had been accused and brought to trial in the United States, he said, there would be "some official interest on the part" of the government. But in this case, he noted, it was Heine who instituted the court proceedings.

The district in which Heine lives just outside Toronto is represented in the Canadian House of Commons by Robert Winters, who is also minister of trade and commerce.

Contacted in Ottawa, he said, he, too, knew nothing about the case except what he had read in the newspapers. He said he would take a personal interest in the case if Heine asked for help.